

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

December 20, 2005

H.R. 4436

An act to provide certain authorities for the Department of State, and for other purposes

As cleared by the Congress on December 15, 2005

H.R. 4436 contains a provision that would increase direct spending for benefits provided to State Department personnel. Section 2 would provide the department greater flexibility in retaining reimbursements for funding medical care provided to employees and eligible family members overseas. Based on information from the department, CBO estimates that it would collect and spend about \$1 million a year. (The collections would occur under current law, but could not be spent without enactment of H.R. 4436.) Thus, CBO estimates the legislation would increase direct spending by about \$5 million over the 2006-2010 period and \$10 million over the 2006-2015 period. The act would not affect revenues.

On July 1, 2005, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 2601, as ordered reported by the House Committee on International Relations on June 9, 2005. Section 203 of H.R. 2601 and section 2 of H.R. 4436 are similar and would have identical estimated costs.

The CBO staff contact is Sunita D'Monte. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.